IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A biaxially oriented film comprising a film of a polymer alloy composed of polyester (polymer 1) and a thermoplastic resin (polymer 2) other than the polyester as essential components, wherein micro protrusions having a height of 2 to 50 nm are formed at a density of 1,000,000 to 90,000,000/mm² on at least one surface.



- 2. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, wherein the number of the micro protrusions is 3,000,000 to $60,000,000/\text{mm}^2$.
- 3. (previously amended) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, wherein the height of the micro protrusions is 2 to 30 nm.
- 4. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, wherein at least some of the micro protrusions are made of the polymer 1 or the polymer 2.

- 5. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 4, wherein 30% or more of the micro protrusions are made of the polymer 1 or the polymer 2.
- 6. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer 2 has a higher glass transition temperature (Tg) than the polymer 1.
- 7. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer 2 has compatibility with the polymer 1.
- 8. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer 2 comprises at least one thermoplastic resin selected from polyimide, polysulfone, and polyethersulfone.
- 9. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 8, wherein the polymer 2 comprises polyimide.

PATENT APPLN. NO. 09/830,215
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

PATENT NON-FINAL

- 10. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 9, wherein the polymer 2 comprises polyetherimide.
- 11. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, wherein the polymer 1 comprises polyethylene terephthalate.
- 12. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, wherein the number of the protrusions having a height of 50 nm or more is 3000/mm² or less.
- 13. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, wherein the number of the protrusions having a height of 30 nm or more is 1500/mm² or less.
- 14. (original) A biaxially oriented film comprising a film (A layer) according to Claim 1 laminated as at least one of outermost layers of a base layer (B layer).

- 15. (previously amended) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 14 comprising another film (C layer) laminated as the opposite outermost layer to form a laminated structure comprising at least three layers including the A layer, the B layer and the C layer.
- 16. (previously amended) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 15, wherein a surface roughness Ra_A on the A layer side is 0.2 to 10 nm, a surface roughness Ra_C on the C layer side is 1 to 30 nm, and Ra_C is larger than Ra_A .
- 17. (currently amended) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 14, wherein the base layer (B layer) comprises the polymer 1 or the polymer alloy composed of the polymer 1 and the polymer 2 as the essential components.
- 18. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 14, wherein the number of the protrusions having a height of 50 nm or more on the A layer side surface is 3000/mm² or less.

PATENT APPLN. NO. 09/830,215 RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

PATENT NON-FINAL

19. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 14, wherein the number of the protrusions having a height of 30 nm or more on the A layer side surface is 1500/mm² or less.

20. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 14, wherein the content W_A (% by weight) of the polymer 2 of the A layer and the content W_B (% by weight) of the polymer 2 of the B layer satisfies the following relations:



$$0 \le W_B \le 40$$

$$5 \le W_A \le 50$$

$$10 \leq W_A - W_B \leq 40$$

21. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 14, wherein the content W_A (% by weight) of the polymer 2 of the A layer and the content W_B (% by weight) of the polymer 2 of the B layer satisfies the following relations:

$$0 \le W_B \le 25$$

$$25 \le W_A \le 40$$

$$10 \leq W_A - W_B \leq 40$$

- 22. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 14, wherein the A layer contains substantially no inert particle.
- 23. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 14, wherein the A layer contains 0.001 to 2% by weight of inert particles having an average particle diameter of 0.01 to 2 mm.



- 24. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 23, wherein the A layer contains 0.01 to 1% by weight of inert particles having an average particle diameter of 0.01 to 1 mm.
- 25. (original) A biaxially oriented film comprising a laminated structure of at least three layers including A layer, B layer and C layer, wherein the A layer comprises a film composed of polyester and polyetherimide and has a surface roughness Ra_A of 0.2 to 10 nm, and the layer opposite to the A layer has a surface roughness Ra_C is 1 to 30 nm.

- 26. (original) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 25, wherein the surface roughness Ra_A of the A layer is 0.5 to 5 nm, the surface roughness Ra_C of the layer opposite to the A layer is 5 to 15 nm, and Ra_C is larger than Ra_A .
- 27. (previously amended) A magnetic recording medium comprising a biaxially oriented film according to Claim 1, and a magnetic layer provided on one side of the biaxially oriented film.
- 28. (original) A magnetic recording medium according to Claim 27, wherein the magnetic layer comprises a ferromagnetic metal thin film.
- 29. (original) A magnetic recording medium according to Claim 27, wherein the magnetic layer comprises a ferromagnetic metal fine powder dispersed in a binder.
- 30. (previously added) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 2, wherein the height of the micro protrusions is 2 to 30 $\,$ nm.

31. (previously added) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 15, wherein the C layer comprises a polyester.

32. (previously added) A biaxially oriented film according to Claim 15, wherein the C layer comprises the same polymer as the B layer.